

Matthew Taecker AIA AICP

For nearly three decades, Matt Taecker has been a leader in developing masterplans and applying strategies to promote transit-oriented development and pedestrian-oriented places. Taecker has developed plans for a wide variety of settings, including urban revitalization, large-scale redevelopment, new growth, and small-scale infill.

Taecker offers proven leadership in urban design, policy/code development, and stakeholder engagement. He has extraordinary expertise with best practices for high-density urban centers. He authored Berkeley, California's, Downtown Area Plan and the zoning and street & open space plan that will implement it.

A charter member of the Congress for New Urbanism, Taecker has portfolio throughout the United States and internationally. He has also authored numerous articles on transit-oriented development, regional sustainability and urban revitalization. His on-line journal can be read at: www.centersandedges.org.

Taecker is a licensed California architect (license number C34493) and certified city planner (AICP).



Professional Practice (partial list of projects)

Owner & Principal, Taecker Planning & Design, Berkeley, CA, 2005-2011, 2013-present

Berkeley High-Rise Hotel & Innovation Center – entitlements and community liaison for 16-story with hotel, office and urban amenities.

Berkeley Plaza Mixed-Use Residential High Rise – entitlements & innovative street design.

Livable Transit Corridors Handbook, Transportation Research Board – corridor-focused research and recommendations for livability and transit (with CFA Consultants).

Volcano Heights Sector Plan, Albuquerque – Comprehensive plan for 5 square miles of new growth along the city's western edge, with transit-oriented development, an open space network, and land conservation strategies.

Urban Design Element, Dallas General Plan – principles for promoting walkable & transit-oriented neighborhoods and districts.

Principal, Dyett & Bhatia, San Francisco, CA, 2012

Taecker was a Principal at Dyett & Bhatia for a 12-month period.

Marin County Multi-Family Design Guidelines – design guidance for promoting high-quality pedestrian-oriented development and to streamline project approvals by establishing clear standards.

Appian Way Complete Streets Plan –multimodal design improvements for an arterial defined as a “route of regional importance” by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority.

Napa Highway 29 Corridor Plan – context-sensitive design recommendations for the eight-mile segment from Vallejo Ferry Terminal to the City of Napa, with extensive community involvement and participation by local, regional and State agencies.

Principal Planner for the Downtown Area, City of Berkeley, CA, 2005-2011

Comprehensive advanced planning & urban design for transit-oriented city center. Directed & managed: policy-level area plan; streets & open space plan; development code; design guidelines; parking & transportation demand program (with Nelson/Nygaard); building-height feasibility study (with Strategic Economics); finance plan for public improvements (with Economic & Planning Systems); and extensive community engagement.

Co-Owner & Principal, Catalyst, San Francisco, CA, 2001-2005

Cornerstone Town Center & Schematic Architecture – developer masterplan and schematics for a new urban center with a wide range of commercial and residential uses.

San Jose Strong Neighborhoods Plans – community-based plans for distressed neighborhoods to promote transit use, community programs, livable streets, and infill development.

Watsonville General Plan – policies and implementing actions for urban design, open space, natural resources, and land use (with Fregonese Associates).

Santa Ana Specific Plan – area plan for revitalization and redevelopment between the city’s downtown and a major regional transit center.

Principal, Calthorpe Associates, Berkeley, CA, 1990-2001

Revitalization & Redevelopment Projects

Bremerton WA Downtown Plan – area plan for encouraging development near this regional transit hub, with parking masterplan and a form-based development code.

Crossings Neighborhood Plan & Schematic Architecture – developer master plan and architectural design for a high-density neighborhood adjacent to rail service.

Mountain Village Specific Plan – award-winning masterplan & streetscape design for the redevelopment of a strip commercial corridor as a mixed-use town center.

Rio Vista West Specific Plan & Architectural Guidelines – transit-oriented development standards and design guidelines for infill growth around San Diego light rail station.

City Projects

Windsor California. General Plan & Design Guidelines – authored community character element and guidelines to promote walkable mixed-use neighborhoods.

Green City, Philippines – master plan for new city of 500,000 organized along a transit-rich spine of mixed-use towns and villages.

Eco-Residential Projects

Firestone Woods Master Plan – conservation development masterplan with environmental analysis and resource protection strategy.

East Sunnyside Village Plan – neighborhood framework for transit-oriented suburban growth near Portland OR with open space network and natural resource protection.

Prairie Crossing (Phase 2) – award-winning conservation development project with compact development and protected open space.

Regional Projects

St. Louis Major Transportation Investment Study – directed analysis for light rail investments using transit-oriented land-use factors (with Parsons Brinkerhoff).

Transit - Oriented Design Guidelines for the Twin Cities, San Diego and Santa Clara Counties – for guiding development adjacent to rail stations and bus stops.

Metro Vision 2040 – district-level capacity analysis of Portland Oregon’s regional growth alternatives, accompanied by illustrative master plans.

Metro Streets – a handbook giving context-sensitive design guidance for regional roadways.

Education

Master of City Planning (M.C.P.), UC Berkeley, 1983-1987.

Master of Architecture (M. Arch.), UC Berkeley, 1983-1987.

Design Certificate, Int’l Laboratory of Urban Design, Siena, Italy, 1987.

Architecture Student, Rhode Island School of Design, 1982-1983.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), University of Chicago, 1978-1982, summa cum laude.

Awards

American Planning Association (National and California Statewide Award of Excellence), Berkeley Downtown Area Projects, 2013

Mayor's Award, Richmond-Menker Community Commons, San Jose, 2005.

American Planning Association (No. Cal.), Five Wounds Improvement Plan, 2004.

American Planning Assoc. (Inland Empire), Mountain Village Specific Plan, 1998.

American Planning Association (California), Merced Villages Growth Strategy, 1996.

Livable Communities Award, Sunnyside Village Master Plan, 1996.

Eisner Prize for Urban Design, University of California, Berkeley, 1987.

Publications

Centers and Edges Journal www.centersandedges.org (editor/author), 2009-present.

The Telegraph Project, for Berkeley Design Advocates, June 2012.

Democracy in Action: Berkeley's Downtown Area Plan, Northern News, California APA, <http://norcalapa.org/about/northern-news/northern-news-archives/>, May 2012.

Reinventing the General Plan (contributor), California Planning Roundtable, 2009-11.

Santa Rosa's Southeast Greenway: A Vision for Community Open Space, AIA Communities by Design program, 2011.

Codifying New Urbanism: How to Reform Development (contributor), APA Press, 2005.

Transforming Retail, CNU Council Report on Retail, The Town Paper, 2004.

The New Urbanism and the Garden City, published in New Garden City in the 21st Century, University of Kobe, Japan, 2002

Alternative Views on Sustainable Design, Journal of American Planning Association, 2001.

Urban Revitalization & Rural Restoration: Planning Rotterdam's Growth, Environmental White Papers, EarthPledge Foundation, New York, NY, 2000.

Building for Transit, Building for People: The Benefits of Transit-Oriented Development, Urban Ecology Journal, Spring 2000.

Principles for Inner City Neighborhood Design, Hope VI and New Urbanism (contributor), HUD, 2000.

Rising From the Ashes: Hope VI & Urban Revitalization (with Tom Kegelman), Conservation Law Foundation, Boston, March 1998.

Vision/Reality: Strategies for Community Change (contributor), HUD, March 1994.

Lectures

Next Generation Infrastructure: How will It Reshape Urban Form?, AIA East Bay, March 2014.

Oakland's Uptown: A Tale of Infill and Reuse, East Bay AIA, 2013.

Urban Housing for a Post-Carbon Future, Bioneers Conference, 2012.

High-Density Centers & Transit-Oriented Development, California Planning Roundtable, Berkeley, 2010.

Densifying Historic Centers: Obstacles & Benefits, New Partners for Smart Growth, Albuquerque, 2009.

Becoming Green: Sustainability & Historic Downtowns, CCAPA, West Hollywood, 2008.

New Towns in the Desert: Sustainability in the Southwest, National APA, Las Vegas, 2008.

Rational Nexus: Performance & Form-Based Codes, CNU, Sante Fe, 2006.

Transit-Oriented Development as Redevelopment Tool, Conference of Mayors, April 2003.

Effective Community Engagement in Urban Settings, ASLA National Conference, June 2003.

The Garden City and New Urbanism, Universities of Kobe & Tsukuba, Japan, Sept. 2001.

An Ecological Approach to Rotterdam's Growth, CNU, New York, June 2001.

Real Affordability: Integrating Housing & Neighborhoods, Monterey APA, June 2001.

TOD Principles for Sustainable Regions, Congress of the New Urbanism, Portland, June 2000.

How the West Will Be Won, Institute of Architects, Vancouver, British Columbia, April 2000.

We Have Feet and Other Amazing Insights for Sustainable Communities, Pacific Energy Center, San Francisco, March 2000.

Toward a Rural/Urban Ecology: Innovations for Rotterdam's Growth, at "Urbanisms: New and Other Conference," UC Berkeley, March 2000.

Principles for Downtown Revitalization, Nevada AIA, 1999.

Urban Centers & Rural Edges: Alternatives For Growth, CalPoly University & the County of San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo, 1998.

Tradition and Innovation: Architecture & Urban Design in the Western Town, "Meeting in the Mountains Conference," Montana AIA. 1998

Teaching

Lecturer, **Professional Practice in Environmental Design**, UC Berkeley, 2010.

Advisor, **Professional Development Program**, San Francisco State University, 2008.

Instructor, **Urban Design Studio**, University of Southern California, 2001.

Instructor, **Mixed-Use Typologies for Boulevards with Dan Solomon**, UC Berkeley, 1998.

Instructor, **Infrastructure for Community: Public Investments for Health & Sustainability**, UC Davis Extension, 1997.

Instructor, **Design Strategies for Infill Development**, Cal APA, 1997.

Chair, **Infill Development Conference**, UC Davis Extension, 1996.

Instructor, **UC Davis Extension**, 1996. Design for Transit-Oriented Development

Affiliations

American Institute of Architects (California architecture license #34493)

AIA East Bay, Chairman, Urban Design Committee

California Planning Roundtable (2003-present)

Congress for the New Urbanism (1992-present).

American Planning Association (1994-present).

Berkeley Design Advocates (2003-present).

College of Environmental Design Alumni Board, UC Berkeley (2000-2005).